

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 8 with the following:

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Many multimedia presentations rely on the use of computers. The computer may access and display media content from a single source, or from a variety of sources such as multiple mass storage devices and the Internet. Where media content from a variety of sources is displayed, however, the computer typically relies on individual components or programs operating independently to display the media content, and does not provide for any integration of the applications. Therefore, the simultaneous presentation of content elements is not seamless, and is displayed in a non-integrated fashion. In order to make content from a variety of sources appear as though it was from a single multimedia application for more effective presentation, there is a need for a multimedia presentation engine for delivery of multimedia of varied content, wherein high-bandwidth media can be stored on local devices, and current and time-sensitive content can be stored remotely on an Internet server, and wherein the varied content can be pulled together as one seamless multimedia application. The present invention satisfies that need, as well as others, and overcomes the deficiencies found in conventional multimedia presentation systems and methods.

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(a) the program stores media content for the subject matter to be presented in a database file, as well as stores references (also in the database) to the media files located on disk or on the Internet; and

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 9 with the following:

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C3 As can be seen in FIG. 1A through FIG. 1J, the present invention includes an engine 10, seen in FIG. 1B, which is a computer program stored on a mass storage device such as a hard disk drive 12. An example of code for engine 10 is shown in the microfiche appendix submitted herewith. A content database 14 associated with engine 10 stores a plurality of records 16 containing media content for the subject matter to be presented, as well as [stores] pointers 18 to the locations of media files located on CD-ROM, hard disk or other form of mass storage device, or on the Internet. The records 16 are stored in the database in the form of HTML script which provides instructions for engine 10 to build and display pages and their content. When a particular HTML record is selected, engine 10 writes that record to a temporary file as depicted in FIG. 1C, or cache 20 which is instantly read by an interface program that displays the HTML in a main display normal width window 22a as shown in FIG. 1D, or the main display expanded width window 22b as shown in FIG. 1J. Images that are too large to comfortably fit either in the main display normal width window 22a or in the main display expanded width window 22b, can be stored in a database and displayed in a separate illustration window 24 in FIG. 1F. The HTML record can contain special hyperlinks 26 as depicted in FIG. 1D which load and display those illustrations in illustration window 24.

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C4 A button display 40, depicted in FIG. 1D and FIG. 1E, is also provided for accessing media that is referenced in the database 14 and instructor video 42,

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narration 44 or demonstration 46 buttons would appear on button display 40 only when that media component is referenced in the database. Engine 10 determines component presence and file location, and then presents the component requested when the user clicks the corresponding button. For example, if available, the relevant video clips from the instructor video files 30 would be displayed in a video clip window 48 when requested by the user by clicking button 42. When instructor narration is available to complement the main topic, the appropriate button 44 appears and the relevant audio file from sound narration files 34 is played on a speaker 50 when button 44 is clicked by the user. If present, button 46 would be clicked by the user and the relevant video clips from the demonstration video files 32 would be displayed in a demonstration window 52, shown in FIG. 1H, to demonstrate a process being described in related text. Note that demonstration videos would be handled as a different media component than the instructor videos, and the engine of the present invention determines when the relevant component is required and then displays the appropriate video clips.

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Referring again to control toolbar 40, a map screen button 54 as well as back 56a and forward 56b navigation buttons are also provided. By clicking on map screen button 54, the user will access a map window 58, shown in FIG. 1I, which displays the current position in the database index with a highlight. Map window 58 will allow a user to double-click on a topic to display that page in the main display. The list is presented in a hierarchical form, which can be expanded or collapsed to give the user an outlined

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or detailed view of the content. Navigation buttons 56a, 56b all for sequential navigation in the map window for record to record movement. In addition, map window 58 includes a URL entry window 60 which allows entry of an internet URL to direct the main display to an on line Web page if a TCP/IP connection exists.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 17 with the following:

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Referring also to FIG. 2, a graphical interface 62 is shown which integrates the individual windows described in FIG. 1. While the windows are generated as separate functions/entities in the software, they would not appear as separate windows in the graphical interface 62. Thus, it will be appreciated that the windows can be integrated on one interface as shown in FIG. 2 or as separate floating windows as shown in FIG. 1 without departing from the invention.

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